

CHARLES JOHN AND ELIZABETH CAMPBELL WAHLQUIST



Charles J. Wahlquist was born at Ostra Ryd, Ostergotland, near Stockholm, Sweden, on February 5, 1866, son of Anders Fredric and Anna Cathrina Olofson Wahlquist. He came to America with his mother and a sister Esther, arriving at Heber on July 18, 1877. He at once began to earn his own living, doing whatever he could, attending district school in the winter months and doing chores for neighbors for his board.

He resided at Buysville for 20 years, taking an active part in every move of a public nature. He was particularly proud of the fact that, as a 15-year-old boy, he helped to complete the Strawberry Canal and later was one of the original incorporators of the Strawberry Canal Co. By his efforts the old Buysville post office was established, with daily mail service, but was discontinued upon establishment of RFD from Heber.

In 1892-95 he filled a mission to Scandinavia, where he labored part of the time as a traveling missionary in Sweden and 18 months in the mission office in Copenhagen, as assistant editor of the "North Star," the official organ of the Swedish language. He also became quite a fluent speaker of Danish.

Shortly after his return home he married Elizabeth Campbell, on August 28, 1895. Elizabeth was born March 11, 1867, in Heber City, youngest of 10 children of Thomas and Elizabeth Davis Campbell. Elizabeth had lived at home caring for her blind mother, so she took her mother to live with them, where she stayed until her death.

Mrs. Wahlquist was a Relief Society worker all her life, as a visiting teacher and

president, in the Myton Ward. She had a lovely voice and as a young woman sang with her sister Mary (Clyde) at Church functions. She was a warm-hearted woman, but very quiet and retiring and was a fine homemaker and was dearly loved by her husband and family.

After their marriage, Charles Wahlquist taught school during 1896-97 at Buysville, and in 1898 was ordained bishop of Buysville Ward, which position he held until the Buysville and Daniel Wards were joined in 1903 as the Daniel Ward.

In 1902, at the age of 36, he started studying law and that same year was elected county attorney of Wasatch County. At that time Wasatch County included territory as far east as the 110th meridian. He was reelected in 1904 and served until 1906, when he resigned to become county clerk and recorder. The family had moved to Heber and he continued to study law until, in the fall of 1910, he was admitted to the bar. In 1911 he was appointed juvenile judge of the Fourth Judicial District and the family lived in Provo a short time.

In the fall of 1917 the Wahlquist family moved to Myton. He became a counselor to Bishop Fred W. Musser and later succeeded him as bishop. In 1919 and 1921 he was elected president of the town board of trustees, and in 1920 he was elected district attorney, positions he held at the time of his sudden death, on April 22, 1923.

The statement was made that many able attorneys of Utah have been vanquished by Mr. Wahlquist's keen arguments.

They were the parents of four sons and two daughters: Keith Campbell, Charles Fredrick, John Thomas, LeRoy, Mabel and Ruth.

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